



Inside this issue:

- ★ Labor Day
- ★ Orlando
- ★ Quiz

IRC page

September 2011

Page 1

Labor Day First Monday in September



Labor Day Celebration

Labor Day, celebrated in the United States on the first Monday of each September, is the nation's official commemoration of its workers' contributions to national strength, prosperity and well-being. It also marks, for most Americans, the unofficial end of summer.

America's labor force is 154.4 million people strong, or about two-thirds of the working-age population. Men make up slightly more than half (53 percent) of all workers, according to the

Department of Labor. About 12 percent of workers belong to a union.

Many American workers see Labor Day as "their" holiday, an opportunity for rest, relaxation and fun. As the New York Times reported of the first Labor Day parade, "It was said that the absence of many members of the organizations

was due to the fact that they preferred to enjoy the day in quiet excursions to Coney Island, Glen Island and elsewhere."

Labor Day traditionally has marked the end of the summer, and in much of the country Americans crowd community swimming pools and beaches for one last dip, and gather for picnics, barbeques and parades.



Campers string line on a fishing pole near Melba, Idaho, during the long Labor Day weekend.

U.S. Work Force Reflects the Diversity of America

- 229 million Americans are of working age
- 21% sometimes work from home
- 79% are employed in service industries
- 54% are female
- 17% are 55 or older
- 11% are African Americans
- 40% of the disabled work
- 15% were born outside the United States
- 20% of U.S. businesses are owned by members of racial or ethnic minorities
- 6.5 million American businesses are owned by women

The United States of America - Focus On:

Orlando



Magic Kingdom Park

The Greater Orlando area is a land of ultimate escape. It is where imaginations run wild. Even the most creative visitors are amazed by the whole worlds thriving here in the Universal Studios theme parks and at Disney World, or Epcot

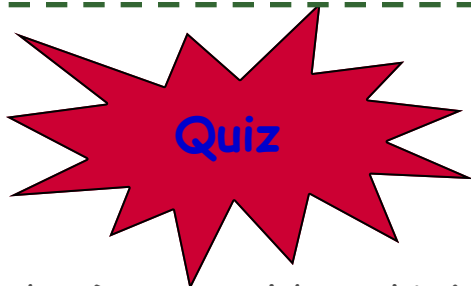
Center. But Orlando is not merely a features boutique shopping, diverse destination of dreams, fantasy and restaurants and a burgeoning nightlife. For those seeking a great natural space, find an interesting blend of Lake Eola Park offers a pedestrian-architecture, from Victorian-styled friendly walking loop. Orlando truly is a place to be inspired!



SeaWorld Orlando



Disney Animal Kingdom - Theme Park



The first Labor Day was celebrated in New York City on:

- A. September 11, 2001
- B. President William Howard Taft's Birthday, September 15, 1857
- C. September 5, 1882

The correct answer is:

Email your answer to wfr@state.gov.
The first three persons who finds the correct answer will win a prize from us!

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